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WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 8th August, 2013

No.15853-WCD-WW-MISC-0050/2013/W&CD—Government is pleased to constitute the State Task Force for Care, Protection and Development of the Girl Child. The Task Force aims to take stock of emerging issues and concerns for girl children in the State and guide for appropriate intervention and action. It will ensure coordinated multi sectoral approach among government departments addressing issues and concerns of girl children in the State and address factors around declining child sex ratio through a multi-pronged approach.

The State Task Force for Care and Protection of Girl Child is constituted as under:—

Sl. No.	Designation of the Member	Position
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Chief Secretary	... Chairperson
2.	Additional Chief Secretary /Development Commissioner	... Co- Chairperson
3.	Principal Secretary, Home Department	... Member
4.	Principal Secretary, Finance Department	... Member
5.	Secretary, Department of School & Mass Education	... Member
6.	Secretary, Department of ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department	... Member

(1)	(2)	(3)
7.	Secretary, Department of Panchayati Raj	... Member
8.	Secretary, Department of Sports & Youth Services	... Member
9.	Secretary, Women & Child Development Department	... Member
10.	Director, Social Welfare, Women & Child Development Department	... Member Convenor
11.	Representatives of Development Partners (UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women)	... Member
12.	Two District Collectors on rotation of every two years Nayagarh/ Angul (for the first two years.)	... Member

Indicative Terms of Reference:

1. To periodically analyse the trends ,patterns and factors responsible for declining child sex ratio and to guide different interventions both at supply side and demand side with involvement of key stakeholders to address skewed child sex ratio.The issue of sex ratio at birth is located at a complex interface of the status of women in society and patriarchal norms, spread and misuse of medical technology motivated by commercial interests and changing aspirations of urban and rural society. This requires a coherent and holistic response at multiple levels by multiple stakeholders.
2. To review and specify action for addressing gender discrimination with intersectoral convergence to promote equity and equality of girl children in the society. Multiple initiatives, cutting across sectors and designing appropriate policy interventions at different levels as per need, aimed at achieving gender equality and enhancing the status of women and girls.
3. To suggest policies and programs to address issues related to most vulnerable among girl children, such as girls with disability, girls belonging to PVTGS, migrant families etc.
4. To assess the trends of violence and suggest ways to promote safety of women, especially girls in all spheres of life and in public spaces.
5. To periodically review the status of implementation of legislations for protection, survival and dignity of girl children.
6. To specify and prioritise commitments of different sectors and stakeholders in addressing the concerns raised, with monitorable and verifiable outcomes and timelines.

7. To make a policy/plan of action on identified areas of action and monitor progress periodically through MIS, social audits, reports and surveys etc.
8. To suggest effective monitoring and review mechanisms and processes, focusing on outcomes. This could include child tracking and strengthening grass root level institutions for curbing trafficking, ensuring child protection etc.
9. To conduct a systematic evaluation to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact of various incentives and schemes. Identify and address key concerns that have been raised so as to encourage retention in schools; promote vocational skill and improve access to health and nutrition services and such other areas.
10. To guide in developing a comprehensive communication and advocacy strategy for improving the status of girl children. Gender discrimination is an issue requiring social and behavioural change, and in an era of a communications revolution, effective and well-planned communication strategies can make a difference.

The Task Force would meet twice a year or as may be decided by the Chairperson.

ORDER

Ordered that this notification be published in the Extraordinary issue of *Odisha Gazette* and copies be supplied to all the Ministries Departments of the Government.

By Order of the Governor

ARTI AHUJA

Commissioner-*cum*- Secretary to Government